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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/864,128	05/24/2001	Filips Van Liee	NL 000279	1112

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
P.O. BOX 3001
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

YANG, RYAN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2672

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/864,128	Applicant(s) VAN LIERE, FILIPS	
	Examiner Ryan R Yang	Art Unit 2672	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 7/8/2004.

This action is final.

2. Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are independent claims. In the Amendment, filed on 1/23/2004, claims 1, 7 and 13 were amended.

3. This application claims foreign priority dated 5/24/2000.

4. The present title of the invention is "Method and apparatus for shorthand processing of medical image, wherein mouse positionings and/or actuations will immediately control inherent image processing functions, and a pertinent computer program" as filed originally.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Applicant amended independent claims 1, 7 and 13 to include "fixed relative positions with respect to an associated medical image display field and with each other". This limitation is not support by the specification.

6. Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are rejected because they are dependent on rejected independent claims.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments, see page 7, line 1-21, filed 7/8/2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 7 and 13 under Chekerylla have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of subject matter not described in the specification.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing and processing a cursored user interaction with a spatially displayed medical image and performing image processing on said medical image, said method comprises the steps of:

providing a menu-less graphical interface having a plurality of sensitive areas positioned at predetermined, fixed relative positions with respect to an associated medical image display field and with each other, wherein each of the plurality of sensitive areas is associated with one of a plurality of different cursors; and

controlling a mouse configured such that positionings of said mouse within each of said plurality of sensitive areas causes display of one of the plurality of different cursors and allows activation and control of a plurality of inherent processing functionalities respectively associated with each of said plurality of sensitive areas.
2. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1, for selecting grey range and/or color range windowing through geometrical mouse positioning.
3. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1, for selecting image mirror or rotation transformations.
4. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1, for selecting image zoom or pan transformations.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1, for selecting shutter masking of the display field.

6. (Previously Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, for selectably navigating through a sequence of images that base on marginal stepping with respect to an imaged object.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing and processing cursored user interactions with a spatially displayed medical image and producing graphics related data on said medical image, said apparatus comprises:

menu-less graphical interface having a plurality of sensitive areas positioned at predetermined, fixed relative positions with respect to an associated medical image display field and with each other, wherein each of the plurality of sensitive areas is associated with one of a plurality of different cursors;

a mouse configured such that positionings of said mouse within each of said plurality of sensitive areas causes display of one of the plurality of different cursors and allows activation and control of a plurality of inherent processing functionalities respectively associated with each of said plurality of sensitive areas; and

display means dimensioned for displaying said medical image and said menu-less graphical interface.

8. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, and having selection means for selecting grey range and/or color range windowing through geometrical mouse positioning.

9. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, and having selection means for selecting image mirror or rotation transformations.

10. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, and having selection means for selecting image zoom or pan transformations.

11. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, and having selection means for selecting edged shutter masking of the display field.

12. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 8, and having navigation means for selectably navigating through a sequence of images that base on marginal stepping with respect to an imaged object.

13. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable computer program, said program being arranged for providing and processing a cursored user interaction with a spatially displayed medical image and performing image processing on said medical image, said computer program comprising the steps of:

providing a menu-less graphical interface having a plurality of sensitive areas positioned at predetermined, fixed relative positions with respect to an associated medical image display field and with each other, wherein each of the plurality of sensitive areas is associated with one of a plurality of different cursors;

controlling a mouse configured such that positionings of said mouse within each of said plurality of sensitive areas causes display of one of the plurality of different cursors and allows activation and control of a plurality of inherent processing functionalities respectively associated with each of said plurality of sensitive areas; and controlling outputting representations of said processing functionalities.

Inquiries

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Ryan Yang** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-6133**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Michael Razavi**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4713**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231


or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 305-47000377.

Ryan Yang
October 29, 2004



MICHAEL RAZAVI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600